

**ABSTRACT**

An implantable medical apparatus for detecting diastolic heart failure, DHF, comprises a DHF determining device for determining at least one blood pressure parameter for detecting a DHF state of the heart of a patient. The DHF determining device comprises a pressure measuring means (2,10,12,16) for measuring pulse pressure in a cardiac cycle for a predetermined workload situation of the patient as said blood pressure parameter, and a comparison means (14) compares the measured pulse pressure with a predetermined reference value. A pacemaker comprises such an apparatus and control means (20) for optimising pacing therapy depending on the result of the comparison of the measured pulse pressures with said predetermined reference values. A corresponding method of detecting diastolic heart failure, DHF, comprises the step of determining at least one blood pressure parameter for detecting a DHF state of the heart of a patient. This step of determining at least one blood parameter comprises determining, as said blood pressure parameter, the pulse pressure in a cardiac cycle for a predetermined workload situation of the patient, and the determined pulse pressure is compared with a predetermined reference value.

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(Fig. 2)